



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MAYOR JERRY SANDERS PRESS RELEASE

### **SANDERS APPOINTS NEW SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that he has appointed Deborah Barrow as the new Director of the San Diego Public Library. Barrow will begin work with the City on July 21, 2008. The Mayor's appointment of Barrow follows the retirement of long-time Director Anna Tatar.

Barrow is currently the Library Director for the City of Sunnyvale, California, where she spearheaded a long-range plan for services and facilities called the *Sunnyvale Library of the Future*. Prior to that, Barrow was the Director of the Watsonville Public Library where she developed plans for the construction of new libraries, implemented a literacy program and introduced web-based systems and solutions. Barrow has also served as the new library Project Manager and as the Library Automation Manager for the Chula Vista Public Library system.

Under the Mayor's leadership and the general direction of the Deputy Chief Operating Officer for Community Services, Barrow will be responsible for operating and maintaining the City's library system. The City of San Diego's Library system consists of the Central Library, 36 branch libraries, and the adult literacy program office (READ/San Diego). The Department serves the educational, cultural, business and recreational needs of San Diego's diverse communities through its collection of more than 3.4 million books and audio-visual materials and a circulation of over seven million items annually. The Library's Fiscal Year 2008 budget is \$38.3 million.

Barrow has a Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology from Scripps College, Claremont and a Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Southern California. She is very active in professional library and community organizations, having served as a representative on the Assembly for the California Library Association and as the past President of Soroptimist International of Watsonville. Barrow also served multiple terms on the Board of the United Way of Santa Cruz County.

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